

# 2012 MAINE MARINE RECREATIONAL SPORTFISHING REGULATIONS

## SEA RUN FISH

If you are a recreational saltwater fisherman, a new Maine law may require you to register with the **Maine Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry**. To learn more or to register visit: [www.maine.gov/saltwater](http://www.maine.gov/saltwater) or call 207-633-9505.

*The following Maine saltwater recreational fishing regulations are current as of May 1, 2012. **However, they are subject to change.** Please contact our office or your local Marine Patrol Officer with questions. All minimum lengths are total length, **NOT** fork length. The **sale of fish** by recreational anglers is prohibited.*

**American shad**  
(*Alosa sapidissima*)



No minimum size  
Using only hook and line, a person may fish for or possess only 2 fish per day.

**Striped Bass**  
(*Morone saxatilis*)



See separate striped bass sheet for regulations.

**Atlantic sturgeon**  
(*Acipenser oxyrinchus*)



It is unlawful to fish for, take or possess any sturgeon, either Atlantic or shortnose, in Maine waters. Any sturgeon incidentally caught must be released immediately, alive and uninjured.

### River Herring

**Alewife**  
(*Alosa pseudoharengus*)



**Blueback Herring**  
(*Alosa aestivalis*)



River herring means both species, alewife and blueback herring.

**Method of take:** hook and line, dip net

**Bag Limit:** 25 river herring per angler per day, personal use only

**Brown Trout**  
(*Salmo trutta*)



Minimum size 14"  
2 fish per angler per day

**American eel**  
(*Anquilla rostrata*)



**Method of take:** speargun, harpoon, trap or hook and line  
**Bag Limit:** 50 eels per angler per day, personal use only  
**Size:** 6 inches in length or greater

**Atlantic menhaden**  
(*Brevoortia tyrannus*)



No size or bag limit.  
Personal use only, sale is prohibited.

**Atlantic Salmon**  
(*Salmo salar*)



It is unlawful to angle, take or possess any Atlantic salmon from all Maine waters (including coastal waters). Any salmon incidentally caught, must be released immediately, alive and uninjured. At no time should the Atlantic salmon be removed from the water.

**Rainbow Smelt**  
(*Osmerus mordax*)



**Method of take:** hook and line, dip net  
**Bag Limit:**

**July 1 – March 14:** no limit, personal use only unless harvester holds commercial fishing license.

**March 15 – June 30:** 2 quart limit regardless of method of take.



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